



Capital Budget:

An Investment in Pierce County and Washington

The Capitol Building in Olympia

Although it funds many other projects, the Capital Budget also includes funding to renovate the domed Legislative Building in Olympia. This historic structure was crumbling even before February's devastating earthquake. Its aging ventilation, heating and cooling systems must be repaired to provide a safe environment for the thousands of school children and tourists who visit each year. It's important to move forward with this project now to take advantage of the Federal Emergency Management Agency funding to repair the earthquake damage.

Including the funding in the 2001-03 budget will allow us to move forward as quickly as possible to protect a building that remains one of our state's treasures. This bipartisan plan to remodel the Capitol will require vacating the building a portion of 2002 and 2003. After its re-opening, I intend to host a number of "District Days" and tours for residents, as the remodel will make this jewel of a building more accessible for all citizens.

K-12 and Beyond

As a small community, we will all benefit from the Capital Budget. From the preschool education programs to renovated senior citizen meeting areas, the funding available for a variety of programs helps keep the costs down for local citizens. I'm very pleased with the \$408 million included for K-12 educational facilities, plus additional funding for improvements to the fire districts, sidewalks and crosswalks for smaller communities. Whether it is increased funding for the Orting Old Soldiers Home, water and sewer system upgrades, swimming pools or baseball fields, this budget is truly a responsible investment in the future.

Higher Education

The opportunities soon available to the people of Pierce County will help all area residents either retrain for a better future or simply enrich their lives. People in the area have varying needs, and our various educational institutions meet those needs. Whether the classes you want to attend are located at Clover Park Technical College, Bates Technical College, Tacoma Community College, Pierce College or University of Washington Tacoma, all of those facilities will be upgraded and expanded.

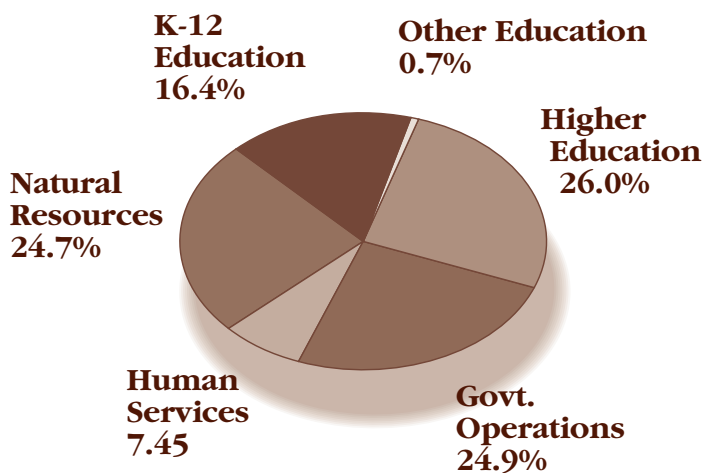
Funding for upgrades to Pierce County's community college technology training programs will further the effort to prepare students for entry to the UWT Technology Institute. The Capital Budget provides opportunities for parents who would like a better future for their children. Those wanting to access area higher education facilities will truly benefit from our hard work this year. Each and every one of us in Pierce County could benefit from this funding package.

Included in the budget is:

- \$33 million for Clover Park
- Pierce College would receive \$5.64 million for portable replacement, and its branch campuses at Ft. Steilacoom and Puyallup would receive \$2.45 million and \$1.74 million respectively
- \$7.5 million for Tacoma Community College
- \$94,300 for Bates
- U of W-Tacoma nearly \$95 million

Local Parks and Natural Resources

Funds in the capital budget will be used to make improvement to area natural resources and parks, including the "Rails to Trails" in Orting and Frontier Park in Graham. The Graham facility will receive close to \$150,000 to upgrade the grounds, including replacement of a 4-H kitchen, in order to make the Pierce County Fairgrounds a top-notch facility for participants and visitors. A portion of the Capital Budget is also used in conjunction with area Native American tribes and the Nisqually Delta Interpretive Center. We've made wise spending decisions over the past few years and I'm excited we can use this funding to make the visit to the Pierce County Fair a bit more enjoyable for everyone.



The \$2.5 billion budget includes:

- \$263 million for community and technical colleges;
- \$3 million for local jails;
- funding for new facilities at UW Tacoma, WSU Vancouver, WSU Pullman, Western Washington University, and Central Washington University;
- \$183 million to preserve forests, acquire and restore parks and promote conservation;
- \$78 million for housing (\$65 million in housing assistance for the developmentally disabled, self-help programs, and victims of domestic violence, \$8 million farmworker housing, and \$5 million for homeless families with children);
- \$229 million to improve water resources (including \$49.5 million for clean water efforts and \$8 million in irrigation efficiencies); and
- \$54.6 million for salmon recovery efforts

2nd District

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2nd District

Capital Budget Report



Dear Friends,

Over the past few years, legislators worked hard to provide opportunities for citizens of this state to better themselves and create a brighter future for their children. In the 2nd District and surrounding community, we have been extremely lucky to have access to top-notch educational institutions that help turn those opportunities into reality.

These K-12 school upgrades, community and technical colleges and university expansions are funded through the state's Capital Budget. This budget is the primary funding source for Washington's infrastructure, or public networks. It provides for the construction and repair of public buildings, including schools. Additionally, it provides local governments and nonprofit organizations grants or loans for housing and cultural facilities. This year, we made important investments in housing for the developmentally disabled and victims of domestic violence, salmon recovery efforts, and protections for our parks and forests throughout the state.

As a member of the Capital Budget Committee, I worked hard to build a consensus in this difficult year of split government. Our \$2.5 billion plan passed close to unanimously, including the \$150 million investment in ongoing funding for Pierce County's higher education facilities. Three years ago, I made the commitment to expand the educational opportunities in our area; I will continue to build upon this investment in all of our futures.

Inside this newsletter, you will find a report of how we truly made an investment in Washington through the Capital Budget. As always, I welcome your ideas and comments.


Roger Bush
State Representative